

The Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Powell:

My name is Albert E. Hoffman and I am writing to you regarding your consideration of dropping the requirement that the telephone companies be required to provide ISPs access to (their networks). Removal of this requirement would be a grave mistake.

I depend on my local Internet Service Provider to give me access to Internet services and options not available from the large telephone carriers. If you choose to remove my ISPs access to the (telephone network) they will no longer be able to provide me and others the level of service we have come to enjoy and expect for Internet access. I have been a customer of the same ISP for almost seven years! During that time their service to me has been impeccable!

Furthermore, by removing the requirement and reducing our choice, you will likely also allow consumer rates to rise.

I sincerely hope that you think very carefully what you are considering. Consumers all across America are depending on you to make the right decision. The right decision is to maintain and grow the level of competition in the Internet marketplace. That goal is best met by protecting and nurturing competitive market conditions for the thousands of independent ISPs and not through their destruction.

Commissioners I implore you to continue to protect the ISPs access to the public telephone networks and thereby protecting the rights of millions of consumers like me.

Sincerely,

Albert E. Hoffman
3444 Lyon Drive
Lexington, KY 40513